

Application of TANAKA - Serial No. 10/025,960 - Atty. Dkt. 008312/0290599

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IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) The disk drive according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 8, wherein

the read head element is configured to have a linear magnetic field response ~~within a range that is larger than an average value of reproduction magnetic field from the disk medium, said range corresponding to a range of magnetic field in which an~~ output voltage is proportional to an input magnetic field strength and linearity of the magnetic field response is secured.

3. (Currently Amended) The disk drive according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 8, wherein

the read head element ~~has is configured to have~~ a maximum magnetic field value (H_s) at which the output voltage starts saturating with increased input magnetic field strength, ~~the maximum magnetic field value being larger than the~~ the read head element is configured to have an average magnetic field (H_{mu}) from the disk medium magnetized uniformly to any one of positive and negative polarities, and

H_s is greater than H_{mu} .

4. (Currently Amended) The disk drive according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 8, wherein

the read head element is configured to have a maximum magnetic field value (H_{opmax}) at which an output voltage starts departing from the linear magnetic field response, ~~is larger than the~~

the read head element is configured to have an average magnetic field (H_{mu}) from the disk medium magnetized uniformly to any one of the positive and negative polarities, and

H_{opmax} is greater than H_{mu} .